Report of JPC on pesticides in soft drinks

562. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Joint Parliamentary Committee confirmed pesticides in soft drinks—Coca Cola;

(b) if so, whether the report confirms the findings of the Centre for Science and Environment, a Delhi based Non-Governmental Organization which had proved-about the presence of pesticides residues in soft drinks samples and called for setting stringent quality standards for soft drinks;

(c) if so, whether Government have implemented the suggestions made by the JPC; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b)The Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) examined the analytical data of the soft drinks samples analysed for Pesticide residues by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), New Delhi, Central Food Laboratory at Central Food Testing and Research Institute (CFTRI), Mysore and Central Food Laboratory (CFL), Kolkata.

The JPC in its report, on the basis of the above data, confirmed the presence of pesticide residues in carbonated water samples analysed and at the same time recognized that the quantitative results reported by CSE, CFTRI and CFL cannot be compared because these Laboratories did not test identical samples, since dates of manufacture and location were different and analytical techniques/procedures used were different.

(c) and (d) The Government has initiated action on the recommendations of the JPC.